MR. I. C. CHACKO :

		Miles.	*Feet.*
Trivandrum	P. W. Division	17	1410
Quilon	do.	19	3763
Kottayam	do.	49	2008

Chengannur-Mannar Village Road.

271 * MR. C. K. SANKARA PILLAI : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether any steps have been taken to improve the Chengannur-Mannar Village road which starts from the 74 1/2 mile on M. C. Road ; and

(*b*) whether any provision has been made to replace the temporary bridges on this road, which have fallen into ruins ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes. The only temporary bridge on the road has been replaced by an embankment.

Kartikapalli-Kayamkulam Village Road.

272. * MR. R. MADHAVAN NAIR (*Karunagapalli* cum *Kartikapalli*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether any fund was sanctioned for converting the Kartikapalli-Kayamkulam Village Road into a cart road ;

(*b*) when such amount was sanctioned ; and

(*c*) the stage at which work on the above road now stands ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO : (*a*) Yes, Rs. 500.

(*b*) In the Budget for 1119 M. E.

(*c*) The work is not taken up due to non-assumption of lands.

Ala-Athilakkadavu Road.

273. * MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the present condition of the Ala-Athilakkadavu Road :

(*b*) whether the above road has been taken under Government maintenance ; and

(*c*) the condition of the bridge on the above road at Kottarathilpadi in Perisseri, Tiruvalla taluk ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO : (*a*) Fit for traffic.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Fit for traffic.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : May I know whether the Chief Engineer has recently seen that part of the road from Kottarathilpadi to Athilakkadavu ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO : Yes, I have seen the road.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : May I know whether he is aware that it is not at all fit for traffic ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO : I am not aware of it.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : May I know whether he will please make an enquiry into this matter ?

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MR. I. C. CHACKO: Yes.

Road from Perisseri to Cheriyanadu (Ala trace).

274. ✻ MR. C. K. SANKARA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any representation had been received as to the condition of the road from Perisseri to Cheriyanadu (Ala trace) that starts from 9/2 Mavelikara-Chengannur Road and meets at 2/4 Kodukulanji Road;

(*b*) whether it is fit for traffic; and

(*c*) whether any work has been commenced on this road?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: (*a*) Yes, with regard to a portion of the road.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The Uthinkuzhi bridge has recently been reconstructed.

Toddy and arrack shops auctioned in 1119.

275. ✻ MR. A. P. UDAYABHANU (*Karunagapalli* cum *Kartikapalli*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of (i) toddy shops and (ii) arrack shops auctioned in 1119;

(*b*) the amount for which (i) toddy shops and (ii) arrack shops were auctioned out in 1119; and

(*c*) the number of gallons of arrack consumed in 1119 and the number of gallons of toddy in the same year?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN (*Excise Commissioner*): (*a*) (i) 1085
(ii) 418

(*b*) (i) Rs. 28,34,865
(ii) Rs. 14,12,515

(*c*) The number of gallons of arrack consumed in 1119 was 3,31,507 bulk gallons. The number of gallons of toddy consumed in 1119 was about 1,25,38,222 gallons.

MR. A. P. UDAYABHANU: May I know whether these figures show a marked increase in the spread of drink?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN: Yes, Sir, there is a marked increase in the consumption of arrack.

MR. A. P. UDAYABHANU: May I know whether the Excise Commissioner has taken any effective step to prevent the spread of drink?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN: Yes, Sir, I have taken control measures. But this is a sign of the times. I must say that the consumption here compares very well with the consumption in the adjoining districts of British India and the State of Cochin.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I know what steps the Excise Department has taken to prevent the spread of this evil?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN: I would refer the honourable member to the Administration Report where mention is made about the action taken against illicit activities like distillation. There is a quota system under which I distribute available arrack to the various licencees of arrack shops in the State, as supply is now insufficient.

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